

NEWS RELEASE

STATE BOARD OF EQUALIZATION

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CLAUDE PARRISH Vice Chairman, BOE Third District

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CALIFORNIA TAX SERVICE CENTER: VIRTUAL ONE-STOP SHOP FOR TAXPAYERS

Three Tax Agencies Join to Create Streamlined Help Site

Noting that two weeks remain in the tax filing season, Claude Parrish, Vice Chairman of the State Board of Equalization (BOE), along with other state tax officials today unveiled the newly refreshed California Tax Service Center at www.taxes.ca.gov. The Center integrates information from the BOE, the Employment Development Department (EDD), and the Franchise Tax Board (FTB), allowing the user to easily browse resources and quickly find important information, forms and publications.

RAMON J. HIRSIG Executive Director The EDD collects payroll taxes, the FTB collects income and franchise tax, and the BOE is responsible for collecting California sales and use tax along with a variety of special taxes and fees. The BOE is also responsible for overseeing property tax assessment across the state.

The website's tab format allows users to quickly gain access to all tax information in a one-stop tax service center. Users may navigate from income to sales, or property to payroll tax, without leaving the website or contacting individual agencies. It also features a home page calendar with filing deadlines and educational seminars for those seeking expert advice on California tax law. Links to information on the individual tax agency websites can be accessed seamlessly from the site.

State Chief Information Officer Clark Kelso also attended the website's unveiling. "I am pleased to see California's separate taxing agencies working together to improve online services and provide the state's taxpayers with better, more convenient access to information about California taxes," said Kelso. "When government agencies work collaboratively to improve services to the public, everyone wins."

Claude Parrish, of Long Beach, was elected to his first term as Third District Board Member of the State Board of Equalization in 1998, and re-elected in 2002. In December 2004, Mr. Parrish was re-elected to serve as Vice Chairman, a position he has held for the past two years. He presided as Chair of the Board in 2001.

Other Board Members include Betty T. Yee of San Francisco, Acting Member, First District; Bill Leonard of Sacramento/Ontario, Second District; Chairman John Chiang of Los Angeles, Fourth District and State Controller Steve Westly.

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